

STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HOUSING

December 2021

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*Committee chair for a portion of the session

Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

SUBJECT INDEX

Collective Bargaining

Enacted

LD 824 An Act To Extend the Protections Provided to State Employees upon the Expiration of Labor Contracts to Other Public Sector Employees PUBLIC 282

Not Enacted

LD 97 An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 151 An Act To Protect Farm Workers by Allowing Them To Organize for the Purpose of Collective Bargaining HELD BY GOVERNOR

LD 449 An Act To Strengthen the Ability of Public Employers and Teachers' Unions To Negotiate CARRIED OVER

LD 677 An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws Veto Sustained

Department of Labor

Enacted

LD 29 An Act To Conform the Maine Apprenticeship Program to the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 PUBLIC 95

LD 594 Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Submit to the United States Secretary of Labor a Plan for a Self-employment Assistance Program RESOLVE 20

Not Enacted

LD 425 Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Establish a State Unemployment Program for Self-employed Workers and Independent Contractors ONTP

LD 581 Resolve, To Expedite Processing of Applications for Certification under the Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit CARRIED OVER

LD 786	An Act To Direct the Department of Labor To Work with the Department of Education and Colleges and Universities and Career and Technical Education Centers To Develop a Preapprenticeship Program and Career Ladder for the Direct Care Workforce	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Employee Benefits

Enacted

LD 189	An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies	PUBLIC 102
LD 993	An Act To Retroactively Grant Sick Leave Days to Public School Employees Affected by COVID-19	PUBLIC 378
LD 1106	An Act To Prohibit an Employer from Charging an Employee for Direct Deposit for Wages	PUBLIC 158
LD 1559	Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program	RESOLVE 122

Not Enacted

LD 447	An Act To Require Equivalent Paid Parental Leave for All Parents Employed by Companies Offering Paid Parental Leave	ONTP
LD 912	An Act To Extend Family Medical Leave to Hourly School Employees	CARRIED OVER
LD 1338	An Act To Prohibit Employers from Retaliating against the Use of Earned Paid Leave	CARRIED OVER
LD 1339	An Act To Clarify That Municipal Firefighters, Volunteer First Responders and Substitute Teachers Are Excluded from Maine Earned Paid Leave	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1453	An Act To Protect Small Employers by Prohibiting Municipalities from Adopting Ordinances Regarding Employee Work Benefits Other Than Ordinances Regarding Minimum Wage Rates	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

Employee Compensation

Enacted

LD 610	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee	PUBLIC 425
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Not Enacted

LD 225	An Act Regarding the Treatment of Vacation Time upon the Cessation of Employment	CARRIED OVER
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LD 607	An Act To Restore Overtime Protections for Maine Workers	CARRIED OVER
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LD 616	An Act To Increase Accountability for Wage Violations	CARRIED OVER
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LD 838	An Act To Exempt Substitutes, Coaches and Temporary Employees in the Education System from Paid Sick Leave Requirements	Majority (ONTP) Report
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LD 1022	An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws	Minority (ONTP) Report
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LD 1339	An Act To Clarify That Municipal Firefighters, Volunteer First Responders and Substitute Teachers Are Excluded from Maine Earned Paid Leave	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Employment Contracts/Agreements

Not Enacted

LD 1519	An Act To Increase Workplace Transparency with Regard to Arbitration Agreements, the Rights of Employees and Legal Remedies	ONTP
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LD 1711	An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Employment Laws	Veto Sustained
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Employment Practices

Enacted

LD 61	An Act To Include Grandparents under Maine's Family Medical Leave Laws	PUBLIC 189
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LD 1167 An Act Relating to Fair Chance in Employment PUBLIC 404

Not Enacted

LD 182 An Act To Expand the Definition of "Essential Worker" To Include Retail and Food Service Workers ONTP

LD 553 An Act To End At-will Employment Died Between Houses

LD 938 An Act To Ensure Maine Workers' Right To Request a Schedule Change at Their Places of Employment Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 965 An Act Concerning Nondisclosure Agreements in Employment CARRIED OVER

LD 1022 An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws Minority (ONTP) Report

LD 1338 An Act To Prohibit Employers from Retaliating against the Use of Earned Paid Leave CARRIED OVER

LD 1633 An Act To Require Responsible Contracting Practices for Public Construction Projects Died Between Houses

LD 1711 An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Employment Laws Veto Sustained

Housing

Enacted

LD 609 Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions RESOLVE 59

LD 1201 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Engage Stakeholders in an Examination of Fair Chance Housing Policy Options RESOLVE 75

LD 1269	An Act To Preserve Fair Housing in Maine	PUBLIC 270
LD 1397	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Assist the City of Lewiston with its Rental Registration Program	RESOLVE 88
LD 1530	An Act To Allow People To Live in Tiny Homes as a Primary or Accessory Dwelling	PUBLIC 219
LD 1546	An Act Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Report on Emergency Rental Assistance Programs	PUBLIC 322
Not Enacted		
LD 211	An Act To Support Emergency Shelter Access for Persons Experiencing Homelessness	CARRIED OVER
LD 463	An Act To Better House Maine Residents	CARRIED OVER
LD 473	An Act To Create the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 654	An Act To Create a 24-hour Shelter Capital Project Funding Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 773	An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless	CARRIED OVER
LD 787	An Act To Comprehensively Address Homelessness and Affordable Housing in Maine	ONTP
LD 1240	Resolve, To Review Barriers to Regional Solutions for Housing Choices	CARRIED OVER
LD 1246	Resolve, To Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities	CARRIED OVER

LD 1312	An Act To Remove Barriers to Accessory Dwelling Units and Allow Accessory Dwelling Units where Single-family Houses Are Allowed	CARRIED OVER
LD 1322	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Allow Rental Housing Owners To Apply for Emergency Rental Relief Assistance	ONTP
LD 1464	An Act To Improve Accessibility of Affordable Housing Data	ONTP
LD 1590	An Act To Define Commercial and Noncommercial Purveyors of Accommodations for Short-term Rental	Minority (ONTP) Report
LD 1656	An Act To Promote Energy-efficient Affordable Housing	CARRIED OVER
LD 1673	An Act To Create a Comprehensive Permit Process for the Construction of Affordable Housing	CARRIED OVER

Labor Relations

Enacted

LD 137	An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response	PUBLIC 67
LD 494	An Act To Change the Compensation Structure of the Maine Labor Relations Board and the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation	PUBLIC 421

Not Enacted

LD 97	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 177	An Act To Improve Labor Laws for Workers in Maine	CARRIED OVER
LD 555	An Act To Expand the Rights of Public Sector Employees	CARRIED OVER

LD 677	An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws	Veto Sustained
LD 775	An Act To Include within the Definitions of "Public Employee" and "Judicial Employee" Those Who Have Been Employed for Less Than 6 Months	CARRIED OVER

Labor Unions

Not Enacted

LD 97	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 464	An Act To Change Certain Labor Laws	CARRIED OVER
LD 1402	An Act To Remove a Requirement Regarding Payment of Union Fees	Majority (ONTP) Report

Landlord/Tenant

Not Enacted

LD 1580	An Act To Provide Protections for Mobile Home Park Residents	ONTP
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Minimum Wage

Not Enacted

LD 455	An Act To Give the State the Sole Authority To Establish a Minimum Wage and Hazard Pay with Certain Exceptions	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 543	An Act To Provide That the Minimum Wage Increases by the Cost of Living Every 3 Years	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 734	An Act To Set a Minimum Wage for School Support Staff	CARRIED OVER
LD 774	An Act To Promote Minimum Wage Consistency	Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1047 An Act To Create an Alternate Minimum Wage Applicable to Student Employees Who Are under 20 Years of Age and to Employees Who Are under 18 Years of Age Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1279 An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage Majority (ONTP) Report

Miscellaneous

Not Enacted

LD 468 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Labor and Housing CARRIED OVER

LD 865 An Act Regarding the University of Maine System Hiring Practices Minority (ONTP) Report

LD 1233 An Act To Determine How Many Employees of Large Companies in Maine Receive Public Benefits ONTP

LD 1724 An Act To Create a Logging Dispute Resolution Board and To Require Proof of Ownership Documents To Be Available within 14 Days of Request CARRIED OVER

Occupational Safety

Enacted

LD 248 An Act Regarding the Board of Occupational Safety and Health PUBLIC 103

Prevailing Wage and Benefits

Enacted

LD 469 An Act To Ensure Safety across Maine's Construction Industry PUBLIC 465

Not Enacted

LD 959 An Act To Protect Small Businesses by Ensuring That a Prevailing Wage Is Paid on Public Works Construction Projects ONTP

Retirement

Enacted

LD 37	An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program	PUBLIC 19
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Not Enacted

LD 117	An Act To Preserve the Health Care of University of Maine System Retirees	ONTP
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State Retirement System

Enacted

LD 99	An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry	PUBLIC 231
LD 190	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefit Reductions for Corrections Officers Currently Included in the 1998 Special Plan	PUBLIC 401
LD 275	An Act To Amend the Retirement Laws Pertaining to Certain Educational Technicians	PUBLIC 6
LD 319	An Act To Promote Socially Responsible Investing by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System by Prohibiting Investment in For-profit Prisons	PUBLIC 234
LD 341	Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Study and Report on How Statewide Retirement Systems Affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset Can Cooperate on Solutions	RESOLVE 84
LD 509	An Act To Protect Teachers from a Decrease in Retirement Benefits Arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic	PUBLIC 225
LD 620	Resolve, To Develop a Plan for Teachers To Collect Social Security	RESOLVE 72
LD 711	An Act To Allow Certain Employees To Return to Participation in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	PUBLIC 90

LD 1101	An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Civilian Employees Who Work for the Department of Public Safety Crime Lab and Computer Crimes Unit	PUBLIC 474
LD 1103	An Act To Allow a 5-year Open Enrollment in the Participating Local District Retirement Program for Certain Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and Other Municipal Employees	PUBLIC 286
LD 1105	Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Convene a Working Group To Investigate Public Pension Options	RESOLVE 66
LD 1644	An Act To Improve the Disability Retirement Program of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	PUBLIC 277

Not Enacted

LD 111	An Act To Allow Career Educators To Retire without Penalty	CARRIED OVER
LD 317	An Act To Create Equality in Retirement for Forest Rangers with That of Employees of State Conservation Law Enforcement Agencies	ONTP
LD 397	An Act To Recalculate Retirement Benefits for Certain State Employees Adversely Affected by Merit Pay Freezes	ONTP
LD 399	An Act To Clarify Retirement Benefits under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Died On Adjournment
LD 548	An Act Regarding Penalties for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	CARRIED OVER
LD 567	An Act To Amend the Penalty for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	ONTP
LD 703	An Act To Increase the Amount to Which a State Employee or Teacher Retiree's Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Applied from \$20,000 to the Retiree's Actual Retirement Benefit	CARRIED OVER
LD 907	An Act Concerning State Pension Funds and Climate Change	CARRIED OVER

LD 956	An Act To Amend the Eligibility Criteria for Creditable Service in the Armed Forces of the United States under the State Retirement System	CARRIED OVER
LD 1002	An Act Regarding the Availability of Health Insurance Coverage for Dependents of Certain State Employees	ONTP
LD 1041	An Act To Include Certain Mental Health Workers under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement	CARRIED OVER

Unemployment Compensation

Enacted

LD 594	Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Submit to the United States Secretary of Labor a Plan for a Self-employment Assistance Program	RESOLVE 20
LD 1564	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Unemployment Compensation	PUBLIC 456

Not Enacted

LD 425	Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Establish a State Unemployment Program for Self-employed Workers and Independent Contractors	ONTP
LD 839	An Act To Address Unemployment Issues Facing School Employees	ONTP
LD 1020	An Act To Promote the Integrity of the Unemployment Insurance Program	ONTP
LD 1032	An Act To Promote the Sustainability of the State's Unemployment Insurance System by Linking the Duration of Benefits to the State's Average Unemployment Rate	ONTP
LD 1260	An Act To Promote the Sustainability of Unemployment Insurance by Linking the Duration of Benefits to the State's Average Unemployment Rate	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1509	An Act To Provide That Maine's School Bus Drivers Are Eligible for Unemployment Insurance	CARRIED OVER

LD 1571 An Act To Strengthen the Unemployment Insurance System To Better Serve Maine Workers ONTP

Wages

Enacted

LD 610 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee PUBLIC 425

LD 648 An Act To Improve the Lives of Maine Workers by Supporting Apprenticeships That Lead to Good-paying Jobs PUBLIC 147

LD 1106 An Act To Prohibit an Employer from Charging an Employee for Direct Deposit for Wages PUBLIC 158

LD 1489 An Act To Update the Classification of Service Employees PUBLIC 288

Not Enacted

LD 455 An Act To Give the State the Sole Authority To Establish a Minimum Wage and Hazard Pay with Certain Exceptions Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 607 An Act To Restore Overtime Protections for Maine Workers CARRIED OVER

LD 616 An Act To Increase Accountability for Wage Violations CARRIED OVER

LD 838 An Act To Exempt Substitutes, Coaches and Temporary Employees in the Education System from Paid Sick Leave Requirements Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1022 An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws Minority (ONTP) Report

Workers' Compensation

Enacted

LD 213 An Act To Require Coverage for Female Firefighters Facing Reproductive System Cancer PUBLIC 325

Labor and Housing

LD 467 An Act To Support E-9-1-1 Dispatchers and Corrections Officers
Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder PUBLIC 419

Not Enacted

LD 305 An Act To Include Certain Employees in the Bureau of Forestry's
Forest Protection Unit in the Laws Concerning Cancer Suffered by
Firefighters CARRIED OVER

LD 575 An Act To Establish a Conditional Presumption of Compensability
for Certain Employees in Cases of Impairment from Hypertension or
Heart Disease CARRIED OVER

LD 997 An Act To Support Maine's Corrections Officers and E-9-1-1
Dispatchers ONTP

LD 1024 Resolve, Directing the Workers' Compensation Board To Study the
Impact of Workers' Compensation Laws on Certain Public Sector
Employees Majority (ONTP)
Report

LD 1239 An Act Establishing Employers' Right To File a Complaint To
Enforce Payment of Workers' Compensation Premiums ONTP

LD 1430 An Act Regarding the Waiting Period for Compensation for
Incapacity To Work under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of
1992 CARRIED OVER

Workforce Development

Enacted

LD 648 An Act To Improve the Lives of Maine Workers by Supporting
Apprenticeships That Lead to Good-paying Jobs PUBLIC 147

LD 1613 Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community
Development, the Department of Labor and the Department of
Transportation To Develop Partnerships with Businesses, Unions and
Educational Programs and Institutions To Provide Training and
Transportation for Workers RESOLVE 92

Not Enacted

LD 831 An Act To Aid Workforce Development CARRIED OVER

LD 832 An Act To Promote Immigrant Workforce Development and
Community Integration ONTP

Workforce Investment

Not Enacted

LD 898 An Act To Provide Incentives to Unemployed Workers To Become
Part of the Caregiver Workforce CARRIED OVER

Workforce Investment and Development

Not Enacted

LD 460 An Act To Amend Certain Employment Laws To Help Front-line
and Other Workers CARRIED OVER

LD 786 An Act To Direct the Department of Labor To Work with the
Department of Education and Colleges and Universities and Career
and Technical Education Centers To Develop a Preapprenticeship
Program and Career Ladder for the Direct Care Workforce Majority (ONTP)
Report

LD 886 Resolve, To Encourage Employment in the Direct Care Workforce CARRIED OVER

LD 1231 An Act Concerning Climate and Community Investment Projects Died On
Adjournment

Working Conditions

Enacted

LD 469 An Act To Ensure Safety across Maine's Construction Industry PUBLIC 465

Not Enacted

LD 358 An Act To Protect Workers from Unsafe Working Conditions with
Regard to Indoor Temperatures Majority (ONTP)
Report

LD 1436 An Act To Protect Certain Essential Workers from Infectious Disease ONTP

LD 1461 An Act Relating to Heat Illness Prevention ONTP

DIGEST OF BILLS AND SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS
130th Legislature, First Regular and First Special Sessions - 2021

DIGEST OF BILLS

PL = Public Law; P&SL = Private and Special Law;
RESLV = Resolve; **CON RES** = Constitutional Resolution;
 IB = Initiated Bill

**Bills Referred to
 Labor and Housing (LBHS)**

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
LBHS	29	An Act To Conform the Maine Apprenticeship Program to the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ OTP		Enacted	PL	95	S1
LBHS	37	An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Emergency Enacted	PL	19	R1
LBHS	61	An Act To Include Grandparents under Maine's Family Medical Leave Laws	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	189	S1
LBHS	97	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	99	An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP/ OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	231	S1
LBHS	111	An Act To Allow Career Educators To Retire without Penalty	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	117	An Act To Preserve the Health Care of University of Maine System Retirees	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	137	An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	67	S1
LBHS	151	An Act To Protect Farm Workers by Allowing Them To Organize for the Purpose of Collective Bargaining	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP					S1
LBHS	177	An Act To Improve Labor Laws for Workers in Maine	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	182	An Act To Expand the Definition of "Essential Worker" To Include Retail and Food Service Workers	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	189	An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	102	S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
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LBHS	190	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefit Reductions for Corrections Officers Currently Included in the 1998 Special Plan	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	401	SI
LBHS	211	An Act To Support Emergency Shelter Access for Persons Experiencing Homelessness	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				SI
LBHS	213	An Act To Require Coverage for Female Firefighters Facing Reproductive System Cancer	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	325	SI
LBHS	225	An Act Regarding the Treatment of Vacation Time upon the Cessation of Employment	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				SI
LBHS	248	An Act Regarding the Board of Occupational Safety and Health	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	103	SI
LBHS	275	An Act To Amend the Retirement Laws Pertaining to Certain Educational Technicians	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Emergency Enacted	PL	6	RI
LBHS	305	An Act To Include Certain Employees in the Bureau of Forestry's Forest Protection Unit in the Laws Concerning Cancer Suffered by Firefighters	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				SI
LBHS	317	An Act To Create Equality in Retirement for Forest Rangers with That of Employees of State Conservation Law Enforcement Agencies	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			SI
LBHS	319	An Act To Promote Socially Responsible Investing by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System by Prohibiting Investment in For-profit Prisons	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	234	SI
LBHS	341	Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Study and Report on How Statewide Retirement Systems Affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset Can Cooperate on Solutions	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Finally Passed	RESLV	84	SI
LBHS	358	An Act To Protect Workers from Unsafe Working Conditions with Regard to Indoor Temperatures	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			SI
LBHS	397	An Act To Recalculate Retirement Benefits for Certain State Employees Adversely Affected by Merit Pay Freezes	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			SI
LBHS	399	An Act To Clarify Retirement Benefits under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Voted	Ant. Div. Rep.		Died On Adjournment			SI

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
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LBHS	425	Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Establish a State Unemployment Program for Self-employed Workers and Independent Contractors	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	447	An Act To Require Equivalent Paid Parental Leave for All Parents Employed by Companies Offering Paid Parental Leave	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	449	An Act To Strengthen the Ability of Public Employers and Teachers' Unions To Negotiate	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	455	An Act To Give the State the Sole Authority To Establish a Minimum Wage and Hazard Pay with Certain Exceptions	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	460	An Act To Amend Certain Employment Laws To Help Front-line and Other Workers	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	463	An Act To Better House Maine Residents	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	464	An Act To Change Certain Labor Laws	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	467	An Act To Support E-9-1-1 Dispatchers and Corrections Officers Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		Enacted	PL	419	S1
LBHS	468	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Labor and Housing	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	469	An Act To Ensure Safety across Maine's Construction Industry	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		Enacted	PL	465	S1
LBHS	473	An Act To Create the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	494	An Act To Change the Compensation Structure of the Maine Labor Relations Board and the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	421	S1
LBHS	509	An Act To Protect Teachers from a Decrease in Retirement Benefits Arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Emergency Enacted	PL	225	S1
LBHS	543	An Act To Provide That the Minimum Wage Increases by the Cost of Living Every 3 Years	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	548	An Act Regarding Penalties for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1

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						Law	Ch		
LBHS	553	An Act To End At-will Employment	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP/ OTP-AM		Died Between Houses			\$1
LBHS	555	An Act To Expand the Rights of Public Sector Employees	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
LBHS	567	An Act To Amend the Penalty for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			\$1
LBHS	575	An Act To Establish a Conditional Presumption of Compensability for Certain Employees in Cases of Impairment from Hypertension or Heart Disease	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				\$1
LBHS	581	Resolve, To Expedite Processing of Applications for Certification under the Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				\$1
LBHS	594	Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Submit to the United States Secretary of Labor a Plan for a Self-employment Assistance Program	Reported Out	OTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	20	\$1
LBHS	607	An Act To Restore Overtime Protections for Maine Workers	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				\$1
LBHS	609	Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	59	\$1
LBHS	610	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	425	\$1
LBHS	616	An Act To Increase Accountability for Wage Violations	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				\$1
LBHS	620	Resolve, To Develop a Plan for Teachers To Collect Social Security	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	72	\$1
LBHS	648	An Act To Improve the Lives of Maine Workers by Supporting Apprenticeships That Lead to Good-paying Jobs	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	147	\$1
LBHS	654	An Act To Create a 24-hour Shelter Capital Project Funding Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				\$1

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Labor and Housing (LBHS)

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess	
						Law	Ch		
LBHS	677	An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Veto Sustained			S1
LBHS	703	An Act To Increase the Amount to Which a State Employee or Teacher Retiree's Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Applied from \$20,000 to the Retiree's Actual Retirement Benefit	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	711	An Act To Allow Certain Employees To Return to Participation in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Reported Out	OTP-AM		<u>Emergency Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>90</u>	S1
LBHS	734	An Act To Set a Minimum Wage for School Support Staff	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	773	An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	774	An Act To Promote Minimum Wage Consistency	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	775	An Act To Include within the Definitions of "Public Employee" and "Judicial Employee" Those Who Have Been Employed for Less Than 6 Months	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	786	An Act To Direct the Department of Labor To Work with the Department of Education and Colleges and Universities and Career and Technical Education Centers To Develop a Preapprenticeship Program and Career Ladder for the Direct Care Workforce	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	787	An Act To Comprehensively Address Homelessness and Affordable Housing in Maine	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	824	An Act To Extend the Protections Provided to State Employees upon the Expiration of Labor Contracts to Other Public Sector Employees	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>282</u>	S1
LBHS	831	An Act To Aid Workforce Development	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	832	An Act To Promote Immigrant Workforce Development and Community Integration	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	838	An Act To Exempt Substitutes, Coaches and Temporary Employees in the Education System from Paid Sick Leave Requirements	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
LBHS	839	An Act To Address Unemployment Issues Facing School Employees	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	865	An Act Regarding the University of Maine System Hiring Practices	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Accepted Minority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	886	Resolve, To Encourage Employment in the Direct Care Workforce	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	898	An Act To Provide Incentives to Unemployed Workers To Become Part of the Caregiver Workforce	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	907	An Act Concerning State Pension Funds and Climate Change	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	912	An Act To Extend Family Medical Leave to Hourly School Employees	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	938	An Act To Ensure Maine Workers' Right To Request a Schedule Change at Their Places of Employment	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	956	An Act To Amend the Eligibility Criteria for Creditable Service in the Armed Forces of the United States under the State Retirement System	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	959	An Act To Protect Small Businesses by Ensuring That a Prevailing Wage Is Paid on Public Works Construction Projects	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	965	An Act Concerning Nondisclosure Agreements in Employment	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried Over				S1
LBHS	993	An Act To Retroactively Grant Sick Leave Days to Public School Employees Affected by COVID-19	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	378	S1
LBHS	997	An Act To Support Maine's Corrections Officers and E-9-1-1 Dispatchers	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1002	An Act Regarding the Availability of Health Insurance Coverage for Dependents of Certain State Employees	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
LBHS	1020	An Act To Promote the Integrity of the Unemployment Insurance Program	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1022	An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Accepted Minority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1024	Resolve, Directing the Workers' Compensation Board To Study the Impact of Workers' Compensation Laws on Certain Public Sector Employees	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1032	An Act To Promote the Sustainability of the State's Unemployment Insurance System by Linking the Duration of Benefits to the State's Average Unemployment Rate	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1041	An Act To Include Certain Mental Health Workers under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1047	An Act To Create an Alternate Minimum Wage Applicable to Student Employees Who Are under 20 Years of Age and to Employees Who Are under 18 Years of Age	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1101	An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Civilian Employees Who Work for the Department of Public Safety Crime Lab and Computer Crimes Unit	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	474	S1
LBHS	1103	An Act To Allow a 5-year Open Enrollment in the Participating Local District Retirement Program for Certain Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and Other Municipal Employees	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	286	S1
LBHS	1105	Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Convene a Working Group To Investigate Public Pension Options	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	66	S1
LBHS	1106	An Act To Prohibit an Employer from Charging an Employee for Direct Deposit for Wages	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	158	S1
LBHS	1167	An Act Relating to Fair Chance in Employment	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL	404	S1
LBHS	1201	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Engage Stakeholders in an Examination of Fair Chance Housing Policy Options	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	75	S1
LBHS	1231	An Act Concerning Climate and Community Investment Projects	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Died On Adjournment			S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
LBHS	1233	An Act To Determine How Many Employees of Large Companies in Maine Receive Public Benefits	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1239	An Act Establishing Employers' Right To File a Complaint To Enforce Payment of Workers' Compensation Premiums	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1240	Resolve, To Review Barriers to Regional Solutions for Housing Choices	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	1246	Resolve, To Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried Over				S1
LBHS	1260	An Act To Promote the Sustainability of Unemployment Insurance by Linking the Duration of Benefits to the State's Average Unemployment Rate	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1269	An Act To Preserve Fair Housing in Maine	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>270</u>	S1
LBHS	1279	An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1312	An Act To Remove Barriers to Accessory Dwelling Units and Allow Accessory Dwelling Units where Single-family Houses Are Allowed	Reported Out	OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1322	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Allow Rental Housing Owners To Apply for Emergency Rental Relief Assistance	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1338	An Act To Prohibit Employers from Retaliating against the Use of Earned Paid Leave	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1339	An Act To Clarify That Municipal Firefighters, Volunteer First Responders and Substitute Teachers Are Excluded from Maine Earned Paid Leave	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1397	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Assist the City of Lewiston with its Rental Registration Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Finally Passed</u>	<u>RESLV</u>	<u>88</u>	S1
LBHS	1402	An Act To Remove a Requirement Regarding Payment of Union Fees	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1

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Bills Referred to

Labor and Housing (LBHS)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
LBHS	1430	An Act Regarding the Waiting Period for Compensation for Incapacity To Work under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1436	An Act To Protect Certain Essential Workers from Infectious Disease	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1453	An Act To Protect Small Employers by Prohibiting Municipalities from Adopting Ordinances Regarding Employee Work Benefits Other Than Ordinances Regarding Minimum Wage Rates	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1461	An Act Relating to Heat Illness Prevention	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1464	An Act To Improve Accessibility of Affordable Housing Data	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1489	An Act To Update the Classification of Service Employees	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>288</u>	S1
LBHS	1509	An Act To Provide That Maine's School Bus Drivers Are Eligible for Unemployment Insurance	Reported Out	OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1519	An Act To Increase Workplace Transparency with Regard to Arbitration Agreements, the Rights of Employees and Legal Remedies	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1530	An Act To Allow People To Live in Tiny Homes as a Primary or Accessory Dwelling	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>219</u>	S1
LBHS	1546	An Act Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Report on Emergency Rental Assistance Programs	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>322</u>	S1
LBHS	1559	Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Finally Passed</u>	<u>RESLV</u>	<u>122</u>	S1
LBHS	1564	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Unemployment Compensation	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP-AM		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>456</u>	S1

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Bills Referred to
Labor and Housing (LBHS)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
LBHS	1571	An Act To Strengthen the Unemployment Insurance System To Better Serve Maine Workers	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1580	An Act To Provide Protections for Mobile Home Park Residents	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
LBHS	1590	An Act To Define Commercial and Noncommercial Purveyors of Accommodations for Short-term Rental	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		Accepted Minority (ONTP) Report			S1
LBHS	1613	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Labor and the Department of Transportation To Develop Partnerships with Businesses, Unions and Educational Programs and Institutions To Provide Training and Transportation for Workers	Reported Out	OTP/ ONTP		<u>Finally Passed</u>	<u>RESLV</u>	<u>92</u>	S1
LBHS	1633	An Act To Require Responsible Contracting Practices for Public Construction Projects	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Died Between Houses			S1
LBHS	1644	An Act To Improve the Disability Retirement Program of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		<u>Enacted</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>277</u>	S1
LBHS	1656	An Act To Promote Energy-efficient Affordable Housing	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
LBHS	1673	An Act To Create a Comprehensive Permit Process for the Construction of Affordable Housing	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
LBHS	1711	An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Employment Laws	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Veto Sustained			S1
LBHS	1724	An Act To Create a Logging Dispute Resolution Board and To Require Proof of Ownership Documents To Be Available within 14 Days of Request	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1

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LD 29 An Act To Conform the Maine Apprenticeship Program to the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 95 amends the information relating to a request for demographic data that an apprenticeship agreement under the Maine Apprenticeship Program must contain. It brings the program into compliance with federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 standards. It requires that the statement regarding equal opportunity required in an apprenticeship agreement specify that an apprentice may not be discriminated against because of gender identity. It also specifies that an apprentice may not be discriminated against because of age.

LD 37 An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 19 amends language contained in Public Law 2019, chapter 446 governing contributions under the open enrollment provisions of the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program by removing the condition that required a person hired on or after October 1, 2019 to enroll no later than five years after hire, conditioned on the enrollment and eligibility requirements of the applicable health plan.

Public Law 2021, chapter 19 also changes the percentage of gross wages for contributions and the time period during which contributions of gross percentages must be made. It removes the requirement of 60 months of contributions by enrollees. It also changes the State's payment of certain premium subsidies from payment to the plan to payment directly to enrollees. The amendments to the open enrollment provisions are retroactive to September 19, 2019, and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources, Office of Employee Health and Benefits is required to ensure correct contribution amounts for those who enrolled between September 19, 2019 and the effective date of this legislation.

Public Law 2021, chapter 19 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

LD 61 An Act To Include Grandparents under Maine's Family Medical Leave Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 189 allows a grandparent to request employee family medical leave in order to care for a grandchild who has a serious health condition.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

LD 99 An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 231 requires the State to divest itself of assets invested in the fossil fuel industry in accordance with sound investment criteria and consistent with fiduciary obligations. It requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to post quarterly on its website information detailing all its holdings in the public market and private equity investments. It also requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System, beginning January 1, 2022 and annually thereafter, to issue a report reviewing its environmental, social and governance investment policy. The Treasurer of State and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters by January 1, 2023, 2024 and 2025 regarding the progress of divestment.

LD 137 An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 makes changes to the laws governing an employee who is a firefighter or emergency medical services person.

Current law requires that, in order to avoid being subject to discharge or discipline for failure to report for work or being absent when responding to an emergency, an employee who is also a firefighter or emergency medical services person must have presented to the employer within 30 days of employment a copy of a fire department or emergency medical services provider policy that specifies the circumstances under which the employee is needed to respond to an emergency and that affirms that the employee will be released as soon as practicable.

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 removes the requirement that the employee present the copy within 30 days of employment and instead requires that the employee present the copy within 30 days of notifying the employer of the employee's status as a firefighter or emergency medical services person.

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 also corrects a technical error in current law.

LD 189 An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 102 authorizes a public employer to deduct payroll deductions designated in writing by a public employee for disability insurance and life insurance offered in

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conjunction with the employee's membership in an employee organization recognized by the employer or designated by a collective bargaining agreement.

LD 190 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefit Reductions for Corrections Officers Currently Included in the 1998 Special Plan

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 401 requires that service retirement benefits for employees of the Department of Corrections included in the 1998 Special Plan as of October 18, 2021 who receive a direct care stipend pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement and who were employed prior to January 1, 2000 be computed on the same basis as benefits for other members under the plan are computed; creditable service is included regardless of when that service was earned.

LD 213 An Act To Require Coverage for Female Firefighters Facing Reproductive System Cancer

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 325 adds gynecologic cancer to the definition of "cancer" so that there is also a rebuttable presumption under Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 for a firefighter who contracts gynecologic cancer. Under the current law, there is a rebuttable presumption that a firefighter who has contracted kidney cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, colon cancer, leukemia, brain cancer, bladder cancer, multiple myeloma, prostate cancer, testicular cancer or breast cancer has contracted the cancer as a result of that firefighter's employment.

LD 248 An Act Regarding the Board of Occupational Safety and Health

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 103 allows the Board of Occupational Safety and Health the authority to adopt emergency rules.

LD 275 An Act To Amend the Retirement Laws Pertaining to Certain Educational Technicians

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 6 provides an exception to mandatory membership in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program for employees filling certain educational technician positions who do not introduce new learning plans and supervise small groups of students in community-based programs and are therefore not required by statute to be certified.

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Public Law 2021, chapter 6 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

LD 319 An Act To Promote Socially Responsible Investing by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System by Prohibiting Investment in For-profit Prisons

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 234 prohibits the Treasurer of State and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from investing assets in any corporation or company that owns or operates prisons for profit. It also requires the Treasurer of State and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to divest any such holdings consistent with sound investment criteria and fiduciary obligations.

Public Law 2021, chapter 234 also directs the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to review its environmental, social and governance policy and make necessary changes to conform to the prohibition and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing by January 1, 2022.

LD 341 Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Study and Report on How Statewide Retirement Systems Affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset Can Cooperate on Solutions

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 84 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to study existing and potential further cooperation with other statewide retirement systems affected by the windfall elimination provision and the government pension offset instead of an interstate compact. The resolve requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing no later than January 1, 2022 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report.

LD 467 An Act To Support E-9-1-1 Dispatchers and Corrections Officers Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 419 adds corrections officers and E-9-1-1 dispatchers to the list of employees for whom there is a rebuttable presumption under the laws governing workers' compensation that when the employee is diagnosed by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist as having post-traumatic stress disorder resulting from work stress that was extraordinary and unusual, the post-traumatic stress disorder is presumed to have arisen out of and in the course of the worker's employment.

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LD 469 An Act To Ensure Safety across Maine's Construction Industry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 465 requires a contractor or subcontractor with a public works contract with the State of \$50,000 or more to certify all craft workers who will be on the construction site have taken a safety training program that uses a curriculum approved by the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and that is at least 10 hours in duration.

It also requires a contractor or subcontractor to complete and submit monthly to the public authority that let the contract a signed statement of compliance that each craft worker has completed 10 hours of a safety program. The contractor or subcontractor is required to display at the job site an affidavit showing compliance. It also specifies that a contractor or subcontractor who willfully and knowingly violates the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1317 is subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$250.

It allows the Department of Labor to adopt rules to implement this law.

LD 494 An Act To Change the Compensation Structure of the Maine Labor Relations Board and the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 421 adjusts the compensation structure for members of the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation and the Maine Labor Relations Board. For the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation, the law changes the per diem compensation for members of the board to provide that, when meeting to deliberate or vote with respect to a matter before the board, members receive \$150 a day per meeting for their services for the time actually employed in the discharge of their official duties and, for all other purposes, members receive \$300 a day for their services for the time actually employed in the discharge of their official duties. For the Maine Labor Relations Board, the law provides the board's executive director the discretion to provide the members' per diem compensation and related costs from the board's General Fund appropriation, rather than requiring the parties to a case to share the costs.

LD 509 An Act To Protect Teachers from a Decrease in Retirement Benefits Arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 225 allows a teacher nearing retirement who experiences a reduction in income from the elimination of an extracurricular or cocurricular position due to circumstances

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related to COVID-19, to purchase service credit in the state retirement system for the income lost from the extracurricular or cocurricular position. The opportunity to purchase service credit is limited to teachers who are in their last three years of service and who previously earned income from an extracurricular or cocurricular position that is eliminated or otherwise unavailable during the period from January 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021. The law also clarifies that the lost income is included in the teacher's calculation of average final compensation.

Public Law 2021, chapter 225 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2021.

LD 594 Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Submit to the United States Secretary of Labor a Plan for a Self-employment Assistance Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 20 directs the Department of Labor to submit to the United States Secretary of Labor and the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing a plan to reinstate the self-employment assistance program pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 710 and the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1197. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing is authorized to submit a bill regarding the program to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 609 Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 59 establishes the Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions, which is a 15-member commission directed to review data on housing shortages in the State for low-income and middle-income households, state laws that affect the local regulation of housing and efforts in other states and municipalities to address housing shortages; to consider measures that would encourage increased housing options in the State; and to review and consider the historical role of race and racism in zoning policies and the best measures to ensure that state and municipal zoning laws do not serve as barriers to racial equality. The commission must, no later than November 3, 2021, submit a report, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.

Resolve 2021, chapter 59 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 15, 2021.

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LD 610 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 425 amends the definition of "overcompensation" by an employer to exclude compensation in the form of paid leave. It provides a definition of "employer." It changes the maximum amount an employer may withhold from an employee's pay to recover overcompensation from 10% to 5%. It prohibits an employer from recovering more than the amount of overcompensation paid to an employee in the three years preceding the discovery of the overcompensation. It also specifies that the section of law regarding overcompensation by employers that includes these provisions does not limit or affect an employee's general civil remedies against an employer.

LD 620 Resolve, To Develop a Plan for Teachers To Collect Social Security

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 72 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to examine options and make recommendations for a plan to allow teachers in the State to contribute, accumulate credit and collect benefits under the United States Social Security Act in addition to collecting benefits under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. It requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to submit a report on its findings and recommendations, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing by December 1, 2021 and authorizes the committee to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature after reviewing the report.

LD 648 An Act To Improve the Lives of Maine Workers by Supporting Apprenticeships That Lead to Good-paying Jobs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 147 specifies that at least 75% of program funding for apprenticeship programs must be used for reimbursement of direct training costs for apprenticeship programs in which the apprentice starting wage is at least 1.25 times the rate of the minimum wage and the ending wage, upon completion of the apprenticeship agreement, is at least 1.5 times the rate of the minimum wage.

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LD 711 An Act To Allow Certain Employees To Return to Participation in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Current law provides that a member of the Participating Local District Retirement Program on the date on which an employer offers an alternative retirement program may make a one-time irrevocable election to remain under that program or to join the alternative retirement plan offered by the employer. Public Law 2021, chapter 90 provides that such an election is not irrevocable and that an employee of a participating local district may elect to rejoin the Participating Local District Retirement Program if the employee is covered by a plan provided by the employer with an employee contribution rate that is not lower than the employee contribution rate for the applicable plan under the Participating Local District Retirement Program and the employee's membership otherwise complies with the United States Internal Revenue Code as applicable to governmental qualified defined benefit plans.

Public Law 2021, chapter 90 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2021.

LD 824 An Act To Extend the Protections Provided to State Employees upon the Expiration of Labor Contracts to Other Public Sector Employees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 282 provides the same protections to municipal, judicial and public higher education employees that are provided to state employees upon the expiration of labor contracts by requiring that, during an interim between the expiration of a public employee collective bargaining agreement and before the effective date of any subsequent collective bargaining agreement, those employees covered by the expired collective bargaining agreement remain eligible for and must receive merit or step increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.

LD 993 An Act To Retroactively Grant Sick Leave Days to Public School Employees Affected by COVID-19

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 378 grants public school employees up to 15 days of sick leave if the employee used sick leave for reasons related to COVID-19. The legislation applies to any sick leave used by an employee from January 1, 2021 until the employee has been granted a maximum of 15 days of sick time for the purposes described in this act.

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LD 1101 An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Civilian Employees Who Work for the Department of Public Safety Crime Lab and Computer Crimes Unit

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 474 allows civilian employees in the employment of the Department of Public Safety, Maine State Police Crime Laboratory or computer crimes unit on October 1, 2021, whose job responsibilities include the handling, examination or analysis of digital or physical evidence, to elect to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. Under that plan, a person may retire at 55 years of age with 10 years of creditable service or may retire before 55 years of age with 25 years of creditable service and at a reduced benefit.

LD 1103 An Act To Allow a 5-year Open Enrollment in the Participating Local District Retirement Program for Certain Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and Other Municipal Employees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 286 allows employees in a participating local district to enroll in the Participating Local District Retirement Program up to and including that employee's 5th-year employment anniversary through an annual open enrollment. It also provides a one-time election for participating local district employees whose five-year work anniversary has passed to join the Participating Local District Retirement Program. The law also clarifies that member contributions for an employee that joins the Participating Local District Retirement Program under the law's provisions may not be made with pretax dollars.

LD 1105 Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Convene a Working Group To Investigate Public Pension Options

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 66 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to convene a working group of representatives of public employers, including the State and school administrative units, and public employees, including the Maine Service Employees Association and the Maine Education Association, to work together to develop new designs for public employee pensions that are based on social security and have comparable benefits to the current defined benefit plan. The working group must submit to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2021, a report containing options for public pensions developed by the working group and proposed plans and timelines for implementation.

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LD 1106 An Act To Prohibit an Employer from Charging an Employee for Direct Deposit for Wages

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 158 prohibits an employer from charging a fee for the payment of wages to an employee by means of direct deposit of funds.

LD 1167 An Act Relating to Fair Chance in Employment

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 prohibits an employer from requesting criminal history record information on an initial employee application form or stating on an initial employee application form or advertisement or specifying prior to determining a person is otherwise qualified for the position that a person with a criminal history may not apply or will not be considered for a position.

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 provides exceptions to those prohibitions, including instances in which federal or state law or regulation or rule mandates for a position that a criminal conviction disqualifies an applicant, or imposes an obligation on an employer not to hire an applicant who has been convicted of a certain type of offense.

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 provides that if an employer inquires about a prospective employee's criminal history record information during an interview or once the employee has been determined otherwise qualified, the employer must afford the prospective employee an opportunity to explain the information and the circumstances regarding any conviction, including post-conviction rehabilitation.

An employer who violates this prohibition is subject to a penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each violation, to be enforced by the Department of Labor.

LD 1201 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Engage Stakeholders in an Examination of Fair Chance Housing Policy Options

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 75 directs the Maine State Housing Authority in collaboration with stakeholders to examine fair chance housing policies considered or adopted in other jurisdictions to evaluate options for the State to adopt that would address housing issues and expand housing opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals without placing an excessive burden on housing providers. It requires the authority to submit a report by February 15, 2022 to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing that includes findings and recommendations and includes a summary of any meetings that occur regarding the examination, a list of participants in the examination, suggestions to increase the awareness among housing providers of the challenges

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faced by formerly incarcerated individuals in finding housing and any other relevant information. It allows the authority to include suggested legislation in its report. Lastly, it allows the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.

LD 1269 An Act To Preserve Fair Housing in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 270 requires the Maine State Housing Authority, to the extent consistent with federal law, use its funding or any state or local funding in a manner to affirmatively further fair housing in the State. It requires the Maine State Housing Authority in its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing to include data reported by municipal housing authorities to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development on affirmatively furthering fair housing. The report must also contain a recommendation from the Maine State Housing Authority on a method by which municipal authorities may annually submit data and reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters.

LD 1397 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Assist the City of Lewiston with its Rental Registration Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 88 requires the Maine State Housing Authority to assist the City of Lewiston in its rental registration program as a pilot project to serve as a model for developing a similar program for all housing authorities in the State. The Maine State Housing Authority must submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing by January 15, 2022. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 1489 An Act To Update the Classification of Service Employees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 288 gradually increases the amount of tips an employee must receive to be considered a service employee from \$30 per month to \$175 per month beginning January 1, 2023 and provides that this amount, beginning on January 1, 2024, must be increased by the same percentage of the increase, if any, in the cost of living.

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LD 1530 An Act To Allow People To Live in Tiny Homes as a Primary or Accessory Dwelling

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 219 requires municipalities to permit tiny homes to be placed or erected on individual lots where single-family dwellings are allowed or as an accessory structure, subject to all applicable land use requirements as single-family dwellings or as an accessory structure.

LD 1546 An Act Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Report on Emergency Rental Assistance Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 322 requires the Maine State Housing Authority to provide to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters copies of any reports required to be submitted to the United States Department of the Treasury or the Governor regarding the administration of the emergency rental assistance programs recently enacted by Congress.

If no such reports are required, the Maine State Housing Authority is required to annually report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters regarding rental assistance distributed by the authority.

LD 1559 Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 122 establishes the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program.

It requires the State Controller to transfer \$200,000 from the available balance in the Adult Use Marijuana Regulatory Coordination Fund Other Special Revenue Services Funds account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Legislature, Study Commissions – Funding Other Special Revenue Funds account.

LD 1564 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Unemployment Compensation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 456 makes the following changes to the laws governing unemployment compensation.

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1. It increases the amount of wages a person may receive and still be considered partially unemployed. It also specifies that the amount of wages a person may receive and still be considered partially unemployed is indexed to the increase in the cost of living, if any, beginning the first Sunday of June 2022 and annually thereafter.
2. It provides the Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee discretion to deduct the amount of unemployment benefits erroneously paid to a person from any future benefits payable to that person. Current law vests this discretion in the Unemployment Insurance Commission. It also provides that unemployment benefits erroneously paid may not be recovered from a person who, in the judgment of the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, is without fault and when, in the judgment of the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, such recovery would defeat the purpose of benefits or would be against equity and good conscience. Current law vests this judgment in the commission.
3. It specifies that a benefit overpayment accrues interest at the rate of 1.0% per month or per fraction of a month from the first of the month following the date the determination establishing the benefit overpayment becomes final until payment plus accrued interest is received by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation.
4. It transfers rule-making authority pertaining to unemployment insurance from the Unemployment Insurance Commission to the Commissioner of Labor.
5. It requires the bureau, whenever a legislative proposal containing an unemployment compensation benefit change is proposed, to consider the estimated effect of the proposed change on the State's unemployment insurance reciprocity rate.
6. It provides that an individual's earnings disregard in effect on the first Sunday of June 2022 and each first Sunday of June thereafter must increase by the increase, if any, in the cost of living.
7. It increases the allowance for dependents and the cap on the allowance for dependents. It also specifies that only one individual is entitled to a dependency allowance for the same dependent with respect to any week.
8. It provides eligibility for unemployment compensation for a person who leaves employment due to the unexpected loss of child or elder care under certain circumstances.
9. It provides that evidence presented at a fact-finding interview by interested parties who personally participate in the interview by telephone or email or other electronic means is permitted for a determination of eligibility for unemployment compensation.
10. It specifies additional conditions that trigger an extended benefit period.

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11. It increases the total extended benefit amount in a high unemployment period.
12. It establishes a peer workforce navigator pilot program.
13. It requires the Commissioner of Labor to convene an unemployment insurance working group to examine the unemployment insurance program pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, chapter 13. The commissioner must submit a report of the working group's recommendations and any suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing no later than January 15, 2022. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing may submit a bill in response to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.
14. It requires the Department of Labor, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation to complete an analysis of the State's unemployment insurance reciprocity rate and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing no later than February 1, 2022. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing may submit a bill in response to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 1613 Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Labor and the Department of Transportation To Develop Partnerships with Businesses, Unions and Educational Programs and Institutions To Provide Training and Transportation for Workers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 92 directs the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Labor and the Department of Transportation to collaborate to develop partnerships with businesses, unions and educational programs and institutions to provide a hub for workers to get transportation to training programs, apprenticeships and jobs and receive information about open positions and training opportunities.

LD 1644 An Act To Improve the Disability Retirement Program of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 277 amends the laws relating to disability retirement under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and makes other changes relating to the structure of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

The law does the following.

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1. It repeals the laws providing for a medical board and permits the executive director to contract with a medical review service provider.
2. It provides that the system's hearing officers are not employees of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System but independent contractors that serve as neutral and independent decision makers.
3. It modifies the definition of "disabled".
4. It provides that an adverse decision by a hearing officer that is appealed to the court must be given de novo review.
5. It restructures the disability retirement application process so that the executive director may grant benefits based on medical records and the member's health care provider's views, may obtain opinions and recommendations from the medical review service provider and may not deny an application for disability retirement benefits without first obtaining an independent medical examination unless waived by the member.
6. It provides that, when reviewing medical evidence before making a determination of disability, the board, executive director and hearing officers must primarily consider medical opinions in the record and whether the opinions are supported by sound medical evidence and are consistent with other medical evidence in the record.
7. It provides that attorney's fees up to a maximum of \$12,000 must be paid by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System for a member who appeals the denial of disability benefits and who subsequently is awarded those benefits.
8. It requires the retirement system to report no later than January 31, 2023 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters on the experience of the retirement system and its members under the changes made by the law. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the 131st Legislature on matters related to the report.
9. It requires formation of a stakeholder group to report no later than January 3, 2023 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters on implementing mandatory long-term disability insurance coverage. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the 131st Legislature on matters related to the report.